

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 128427
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P R 031940Z JUN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
INFO USAFE RAMSTEIN

UNCLAS STATE 128427

PASS DAO/POL COUNSELOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI, PGOV, GW

SUBJECT:REQUEST BY FRG EMBASSY FOR ASSISTANCE

1. DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED FOLLOWING NOTE VERBALE DATED
JUNE 3 FROM FRG EMBASSY: BEGIN TEXT: ON MARCH 19, 1977 A
CREW OF FIVE GERMAN AND ONE SWISS NATIONALS ON THEIR SAIL-
ING YACHT BY THE NAME OF "NORDSTERN IV" SAILED FROM THE
ISLAND OF ANTIGUA WITH THE AIM OF REACHING LISBON VIA A
SOUTHERN ROUTE.

SO FAR THE CREW HAS NEITHER ARRIVED IN LISBON NOR HAS THEIR
YACHT BEEN LOCATED. THE YACHT, 17.5 METERS LONG, PAINTED
IN RED, DOES NOT DISPOSE OF A RADIO TRANSMITTER. IT IS
STILL POSSIBLE FOR THE CREW TO HAVE SURVIVED SINCE THEY
ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE A TWO MONTHS FOOD SUPPLY WITH THEM.

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THE NEW YORK COAST GUARD HAD BEEN INVOLVED IN THE SEARCH OF
"NORDSTERN IV", IS, HOWEVER, REPORTED TO HAVE ABANDONED
THEIR SEARCH ACTIVITIES ON OR ABOUT MAY 28, 1977. ON
JUNE 1, 1977 THE RAMSTEIN US SEARCH AND RESCUE UNIT WAS
CONTACTED BY GERMAN AUTHORITIES AND HAS AGREED IN PRINCIPLE
TO ASSUME THE SEARCH OF "NORDSTERN IV" PROVIDED THE UNITED
STATES GOVERNMENT GIVES THE NECESSARY INSTRUCTIONS. END

TEXT.

2. BOTH DEPARTMENT AND DOD BELIEVE THAT EMBASSY/BONN AND USAF ARE IN BEST POSITION TO DETERMINE REQUIRED COURSE OF ACTION. SUGGEST EMBASSY CONTACT FRG ACTION OFFICER IN FOREIGN MINISTRY (MR. EBERHARDT, LEGAL DIVISION, REFERAT 510) TO OBTAIN PERTINENT DETAILS. IF NO OBJECTIONS PERCEIVED BY EITHER EMBASSY OR USAF, THEN RAMSTEIN SEARCH AND RESCUE UNIT MAY INITIATE APPROPRIATE PROCEDURES.

3. DEPARTMENT ALSO UNDERSTANDS THAT GERMAN YACHT CLUB HAS BROUGHT ITS CONCERN OVER MISSING NORDSTERN IV TO ATTENTION OF BOTH WISCHNEWSKI AND LEBER. VANCE

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
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